

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 7 to Tuesday 13 October 2015

Summary

The past week has been largely dry across all but the north-east of England and river flows have responded by decreasing at the majority of indicator sites. Whilst flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at just over half of the indicator sites, nearly an equal number of sites are now **below normal** or lower.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from less than 1mm in south-east and south-west England to 9mm in the north-east (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from 20% of the October long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 52% in north-east England (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at all but four indicator sites over the past week, in response to the low rainfall.
- The latest daily mean flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at just over half of the indicator sites, with the remaining sites being **below normal** or lower (Figure 2).

Outlook

High pressure is expected to remain dominant over the coming week, with dry conditions prevailing, particularly in the north and west. Scattered light showers may affect eastern areas over the next few days, with isolated heavy showers or patchy rain possible across the south-east on Friday through to Sunday.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 07 - 13 Oct '15	Latest month to date: Oct '15		Last month: Sep '15		Last 3 months: Jul '15 - Sep '15		Last 6 months: Apr '15 - Sep '15		Last 12 months: Oct '14 - Sep '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	3	24	20	50	45	272	91	500	97	1256	108
north-east	9	38	52	43	63	231	112	391	102	826	101
central	1	21	36	40	67	180	102	312	91	706	99
east	3	22	44	50	101	193	126	293	98	618	103
south-east	0.9	25	35	65	103	230	136	338	103	795	109
south-west	0.6	24	24	73	88	317	145	464	114	1078	107
England	3	26	34	53	77	233	119	372	101	846	105

Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015)¹

¹ Notes:

- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990
- Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC).
- The data is rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent (except when values are less than 1).
- Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.

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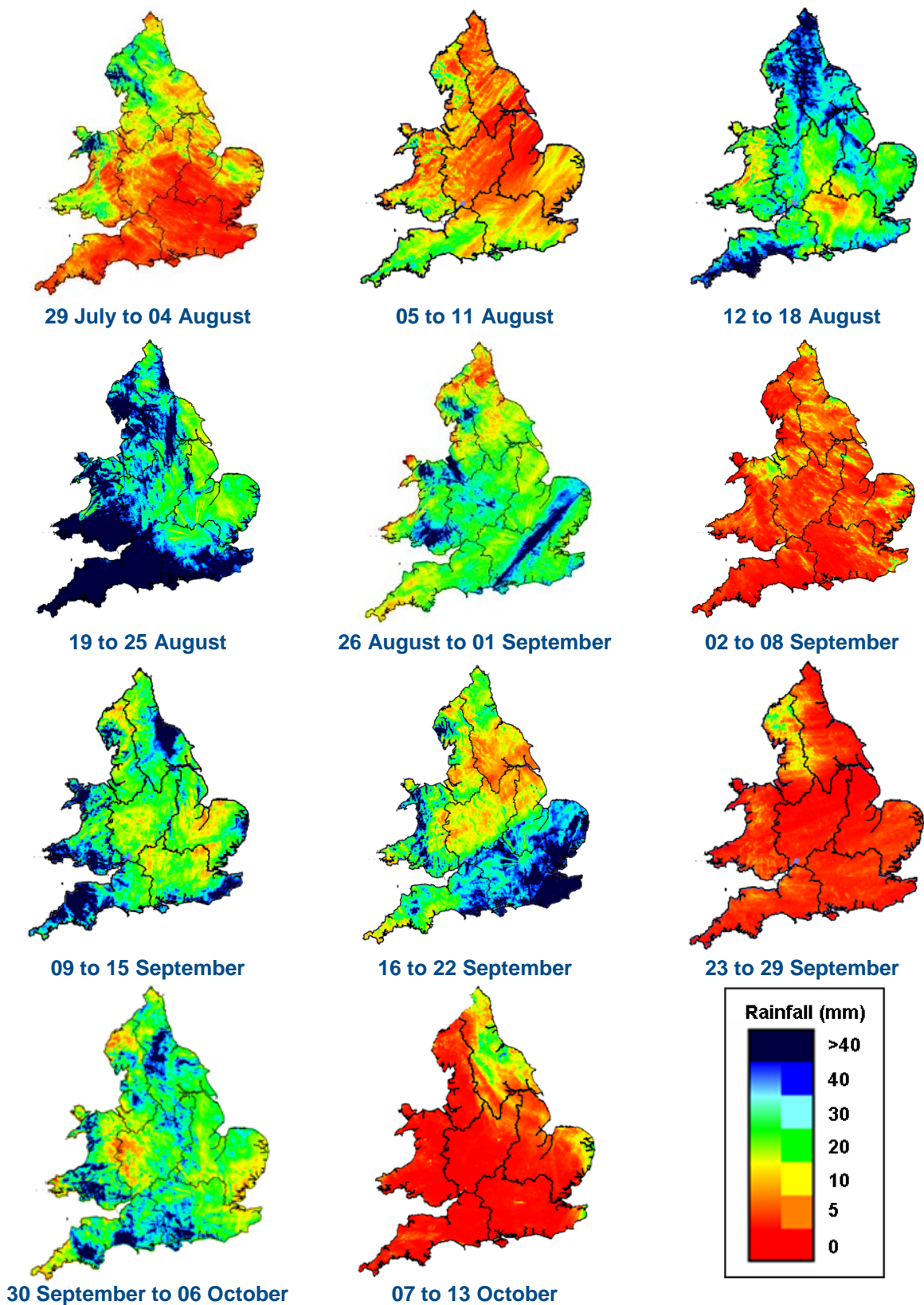
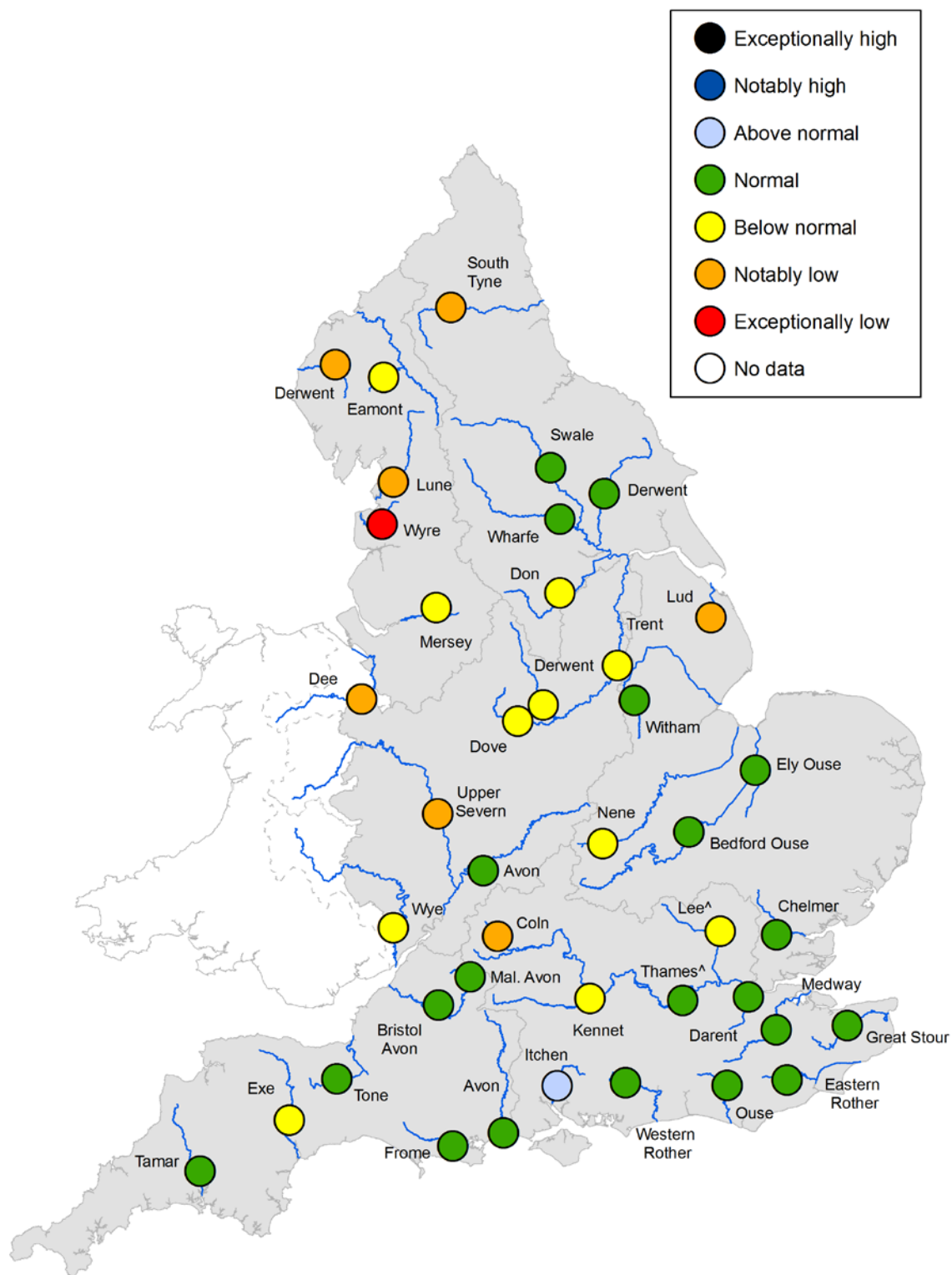


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

River Flow



^ – ‘Naturalised’ flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

Figure 2: Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year². (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

²Flow percentiles describe the percentage of time that a particular flow has been equalled or exceeded compared to the historic flow record for that site for the time of year. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.